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City Continues Strict Water Conservation Measures

Beverly Hills, CA –The City of Beverly Hills will continue a strict water conservation program after completing its water demand analysis and incorporating information provided by the Metropolitan Water District (MWD). It has been determined that the agency can meet the City's water needs for the next three years.

Beverly Hills Council agreed on June 21 to transition to a long-range conservation goal that maintains the savings achieved during the recent drought. (For 2016, the City has averaged a 22.06% reduction in water use.) The City will also continue its proactive leak-detection, water audit and rebate programs, along with restrictions on outdoor watering.

Due to these changes, the penalty surcharge program will be suspended, but enforcement of water conservation restrictions will continue, focusing on prohibited outdoor water use and excessive water use. Over the next few months, the City will be implementing an "unreasonable use" fine for customers identified as using excessive water.

Because of the water supply assurances from MWD, Beverly Hills, like most other water - providers, has submitted a self-certification conservation target of 0% to the State Water Resources Control Board, but will keep in place an aggressive water conservation program. The modified Stage D water conservation declaration was maintained and will remain in effect until the new City conservation target has been adopted.

The continued restrictions include:

- Plumbing and irrigation leaks shall be repaired as soon as practicable. The City may issue notices to repair visible leaks. The City offers an online Water Tracker tool (www.beverlyhills.org/watertracker) for tracking personal water

use and has knowledgeable, helpful staff who help customers with continuous flow issues as well as with excessive watering situations)

- Landscape irrigation shall be restricted to two days per week.
- Exterior wash-down of buildings and wash-down of vehicles shall be prohibited, unless:
 - The washing is done on the immediate premises of a commercial car wash or commercial service station or with reclaimed wastewater. or
 - The health, safety and welfare of the public are contingent upon frequent vehicle cleaning, such as the cleaning of garbage trucks and vehicles to transport food and perishables.
- Violation by any person of the mandatory requirements for outdoor watering shall constitute a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be punished by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00).
- Water usage from fire hydrants shall be limited to firefighting, related activities or other activities necessary to maintain the public health, safety and welfare.
- Restaurants shall serve water upon request only.
- All public restrooms in the City and private bathrooms in hotels shall notify patrons and employees of water conservation goals.

To learn more about water wise landscaping, attend one of the City's upcoming workshops. For more information on these free events; on rebates for high efficiency washers and toilets, weather based irrigation controllers, rotating sprinkler nozzles, turf removal and more, and on how to track your water consumption, visit www.bhsaves.org. Also, for tips on how to conserve water, visit MWD's website at www.bewaterwise.com. To speak with the City's Water Conservation Administrator, call (310) 285-2467 or email DFigoni@BeverlyHills.org.

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